



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6956

January Session, 2015



AN ACT CONCERNING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) There is established a panel on
2 sustainable community rating systems. Such panel shall consist of the
3 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioners
4 of Energy and Environmental Protection, Housing, Economic and
5 Community Development, Public Health and Transportation, or said
6 secretary's and commissioners' designees. Additionally, such panel
7 shall consist of a member of the Connecticut Green Bank and the chief
8 elected officials, or such officials' designees, of three municipalities, as
9 mutually selected by the cochairpersons and ranking members of the
10 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
11 of matters relating to the environment and planning and development.
12 Such panel shall assess the viability of developing a sustainable
13 community rating system in the state. In making such assessment,
14 such panel shall review sustainable community rating systems used on
15 either a national, state or regional level, including, but not limited to,
16 the STAR Community Rating System, the state of New York's Climate
17 Smart Communities Certification Program, Minnesota's Green Step
18 Cities Program and Sustainable Jersey. Such assessment shall include,
19 but not be limited to: (1) Consideration of the need to utilize one or
20 more state agencies to establish such a sustainable community rating

21 system in the state, (2) the availability of a third party to establish such
 22 a sustainable community rating system in the state, (3) the benefits of
 23 establishing a state and third-party partnership for the establishment
 24 of such a sustainable community rating system, (4) the current efforts
 25 of municipalities in the state to implement sustainable community
 26 practices and policies, and (5) requisite incentives for encouraging
 27 municipalities in the state to participate or seek certification as a
 28 sustainable community under any such sustainable community ratings
 29 system. Not later than January 1, 2016, such panel, in accordance with
 30 section 11-4a of the general statutes, shall submit a report to the joint
 31 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 32 matters relating to the environment, energy and technology, planning
 33 and development, commerce, public health, housing and
 34 transportation. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, any
 35 recommendations for legislation to establish or assist in the
 36 establishment of a sustainable community rating system in the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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ENV Joint Favorable Subst.